



SUMMARY | What does it mean to be “image bearers” of God? In the ancient world, the word image often referred to handcrafted statues of wood or stone that represented the features and power of mythological gods. In the Bible, it says that God made men and women as His “image bearers.” Theologians have debated the true meaning of those words. Do we physically look like God or are we misunderstanding the context?

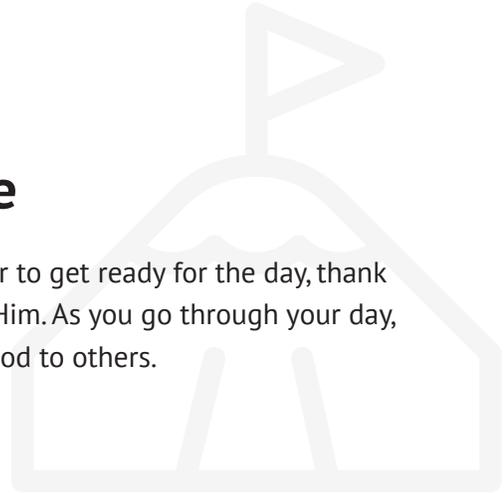
Author Philip Yancey says the answer is simple, we bear His image in likeness. We are meant to reflect Him to the world. How should that profound truth impact the way we live?

This Week’s Discussion Questions

1. Genesis 1:26–27 gives the account of God creating mankind. As you read the verses, what does it mean that God made humans in His “image”?
2. If the body of Christ is the visible presence of God in the world, how should that impact the way we live and treat one another?
3. What does it look like to live in a way that brings God pleasure?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:21–24. What are the “unrepresentable parts”? How could this metaphor impact the way we approach those in the church with a low self-image?

Challenge

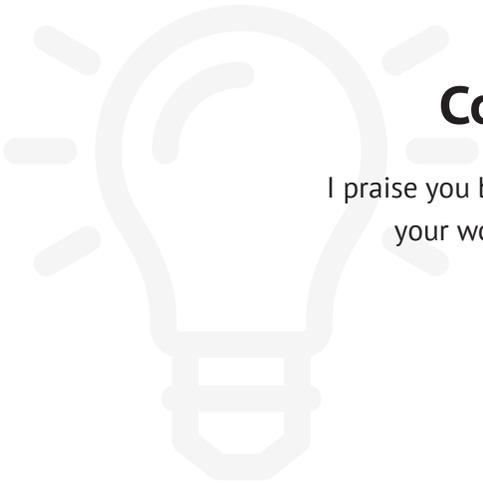
Every morning this week, as you look in the mirror to get ready for the day, thank God for being fearfully and wonderfully made by Him. As you go through your day, think of ways you can reflect God to others.



Commit To Memory

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:14



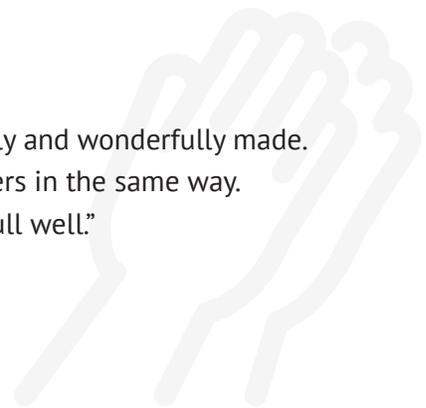
Prayer

God, help me to see myself the way You see me, as fearfully and wonderfully made.

And as I go through my day, give me eyes to see others in the same way.

“Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”

Amen.





SUMMARY | There is a strong connection between the human body and the body of Christ. Taking a look at our anatomy provides rich analogies for believers to follow when it comes to reflecting God on the earth.

Author Philip Yancey is back at the table with Discover the Word to lead us in a conversation about unity, health, and pain in the physical body and how it correlates the truth found in the gospel. Explore these profound truths that remind us that the body of Christ is the visible presence of God in the world.

This Week's Discussion Questions

1. Take a moment to read and reflect on 1 Corinthians 12:27. Why does Paul describe the church as a "body"? How does this impact the way we view one another?
2. In 2 Corinthians 1:3–4, Paul tells us that God comforts us so that we may comfort others. Can you think of a time when you administered love and comfort to another based on the way God loved you through a situation?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 9:19–23. What was Paul willing to do for the sake of others? How does that impact the way we should approach one another?
4. Pain is the body's way of warning us of a problem. Read 1 Corinthians 12:26. How does pain apply to the body of Christ?

Challenge

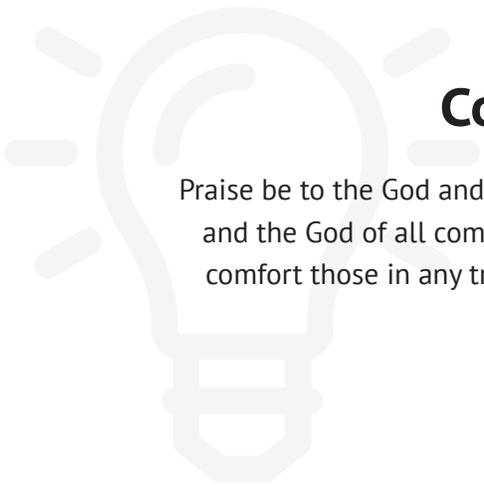
This week, think of a positive way you can have an impact on the body of believers you know. Challenge yourself to follow through with action.



Commit To Memory

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4



Prayer

God, thank You for creating me in Your image and then blessing me to be part of the body of Christ that reflects You to the world. Help me to positively impact the world so that others want to become part of Your family.

Amen.

